



# Coalition of City Unions

## Co-Chairs

Kenny Stuart

Amy Bowles

## Coalition Members

AFSCME #2

Firefighters #27

IAM #160

PTE #17

Pacific NW Regional

Council of Carpenters

Seattle Municipal Court

Marshals Guild

Seattle Police Dispatchers

Guild

Seattle Police Guild

Seattle Police Mgmt.

Assoc.

UA 32 PLG

## Joint Crafts Council

Boilermakers #104

HERE #8

IATSE #15

IBEW #46

Inland Boatman's Union

IUOE #286

Laborer's Union #1239

Painters District Co #5

Sheetmetal Workers #66

Signpainters #1094

Teamsters #117

Teamsters #763

July 26, 2019

Seattle City Council  
City Hall  
600 – 4th Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98124-4025

Dear Councilmembers:

The Seattle Coalition of City Unions (CCU) is writing in response to your letter dated July 15, and in support of the Seattle Police Officers' Guild (SPOG) as a CCU member.

The CCU wants to make it perfectly clear that we strongly disagree with any unilateral attempts to reopen SPOG's current collective bargaining agreement (CBA). The CBA was bargained in good faith over the course of several years and signed by the Mayor and Seattle City Council. Any and all efforts to put undue pressure on SPOG to reopen this agreement are inappropriate. The members of SPOG have the right to determine, on their own terms, what course of action they want to pursue.

The CCU unquestionably supports police accountability and recognizes the successful efforts of the City and SPOG to reach full compliance with the 2012 consent decree with the Department of Justice. As you know, one of the central tenets of collective bargaining is confidentiality of the negotiations until a tentative agreement has been reached. That confidentiality ensures that parties to the process can have open, frank and suppositional discussions at the bargaining table that would be next to impossible to have in an open forum.

Although there were pressures from 3<sup>rd</sup> parties to "daylight" or open the negotiations to the public during the negotiations, those pressures were successfully held at bay. The CCU is also writing today because we have concerns that those external pressures have returned in light of Judge Robart's recent opinion and that there are anti-union forces that want to renegotiate SPOG's Collective Bargaining Agreement in public. This would set a bad precedent that could negatively impact all of the Seattle City employees that we represent. As Councilmember Mosqueda herself has said, we remain "uncompromising in our commitment to the principles and importance of collective bargaining" and we support SPOG's rights in this instance. There are a variety of controversial issues that affect our members at the City of Seattle but the members of the CCU are uncompromising in our unified support for workers' rights.

As members of the Coalition of City Unions, we proudly stand with our brothers and sisters at SPOG and all Seattle City Employees who make Seattle function and provide essential city services each and every day in our communities. Bargaining in good faith by both parties is crucial to the labor-management relationship and we want to ensure that this principle is a priority of our city council members.

Sincerely,

Kenny Stuart  
CCU Co-Chair  
IAFF Local 17

Shaun Van Eyk  
CCU Co-Chair  
PROTEC 17

cc: Mayor Jenny Durkan